

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the above amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 and 9-20 are pending; Claim 7 is amended; and Claim 8 is canceled herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-6 and 14-20 were allowed; Claims 8 and 10-13 were indicated as including allowable subject matter; and Claims 7 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,763,082B2 to Ozaki.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that Claims 1-6 and 14-20 are allowed and Claims 8 and 10-13 contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Claim 7 is amended to include the allowable features recited in Claim 8. Thus, all Claims 1-7 and 9-20 are in condition for allowance.

Additionally, in the July 25th Office Action, Section 10 of the Office Action Summary did not indicate whether the drawings filed March 12, 2004 were accepted or objected to by the Examiner. However, in a telephone conversation with Examiner Bruce on December 1, 2005, Examiner Bruce indicated that the drawings are acceptable. Applicant appreciates the Examiner indicating that the drawings are acceptable.

Consequently, in view of the foregoing discussion and present amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Kevin M. McKinley
Registration No. 43,794

EHK/KMM/law
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